

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 08165 281114 Z

53

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 AID-20 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EUR-25 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-12

LAB-06 SIL-01 AGR-20 TAR-02 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12

RSR-01 /200 W

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P 280933 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4882

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 8165

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR ETRD JA US

SUBJ: US AGRICULTURAL EXPORT CONTROLS

REF: STATE 126473

1. FONOFF VICE MINISTER TSURUMI INFORMED THE AMBASSADOR JUNE 28 OF THE GOJ'S DEEP CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS OF U. S. ACTION TO EMBARGO SHIPMENT OF SOYBEANS, AND IN PARTICULAR OVER PROSPECT OF FUTURE ALLOCATION OF EXPORTS OF SOYBEANS AND PRODUCTS. TSURUMI REFERRED TO JAPAN'S ROLE AS TRADITIONAL MAJOR PURCHASER OF SOYBEANS FROM U. S. , TO ITS DEPENDENCE ON U. S. AS AN ASSURED SOURCE OF SUPPLY, AND TO PREVIOUS COMMITMENTS THAT EXISTING CONTRACTS FOR EXPORTS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS WOULD BE HONORED. TSURUMI ALSO REFERRED TO TALKING PAPER ON U. S. AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS TO JAPAN THAT AMBASSADOR USHIBA HAD LEFT WITH SECRETARY BUTZ ON JUNE21.

2. THE AMBASSADOR STRESSED TO TSURUMI THAT JAPAN AS A VALUED CUSTOMER, WOULD RECEIVE EQUITABLE TREATMENT. ALSO
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 08165 281114 Z

ASSURED TSURUMI THAT ACTION IS TEMPORARY, AND THAT AFTER REVIEW OF THE SITUATION, FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING NOT LATER THAN JULY 2. (WE HAVE SINCE SENT TO GOJ COMMENTS OF SECRETARY BUTZ, AS CONTAINED IN USIS WIRELESS FILE ITEM EPF-32, TO EFFECT THAT CONTROLS WILL ALSO HELP TO INSURE THAT JAPAN AND OTHER LEADING CUSTOMERS OF U. S. SOYBEANS WILL BE PROTECTED FROM " THE INVASION OF NEW CUSTOMERS".)

3. TSURUMI ADDED TO ECON/ MIN WHO ALSO PRESENT THAT JAPANESE SIDE INTENDS TO RAISE QUESTION OF U. S. DEPENDABILITY AS AN AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIER AT JULY 16-17 MINISTERIAL MEETING. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS (AS INDICATED IN TOKYO 6855 PARA 9) THAT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE BE PREPARED TO SPEAK IN DETAIL ON THIS SUBJECT AT ECONCOM.

4. THERE IS, AS RESULT OF LATEST U. S. ACTION, INCREASED TALK IN JAPAN OF NEED TO DIVERSIFY SOURCES OF SUPPLY IN AGRICULTURE, AS WELL AS TO INCREASE THE PERCENTAGE OF JAPANESE SELF- SUFFICIENCY IN AGRICULTURAL AREA.

ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, ANY ADDITIONAL WASHINGTON COMMENT THAT WOULD SERVE TO ALLAY JAPANESE FEARS.
INGERSOLL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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